line now meant for goods trains only; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware of a commitment of the previous Railway Minister in a letter No. 90/ Chg. I|16|E|2 dated 28th January, 1991 to the then a Member of Parlia ment to complete the work in 1991-92;

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon;

(d) whether Government are also aware of a public agitation on April 6, 1992 against breach of commitment; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is a proposal to extend Dhanbad-Patherdih train upto Bhojudih after remodelling of Patherdih yard.

(b) The letter under reference stated the fact that necessary work on modification of Pathcrdih-Bhoju. dih section to make it fit for running passenger trains, had been included in the Work Programme for 1991-92.

(c) The work is in progress.

(d) There was an agitation at Bhojudih on 6-4-92 demanding better rail services including extension of Dhanbad-Patherdih train upto Bhojudih.

(e) Extension of train upto Bhojudih will be considered on completion of the work.

Principle of transferring dividends

1904. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the principle of transferring dividends by Railways to the Gene ral Fund; and

(b) the amount so transferred during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The rates of dividend payable by the Railways to General Revenues are based on the recommendations of the railway Convention Committee duly approved by Parliament.

(b) The dividend paid was as under:

Year	Amount (Rupees in crores)
1988-89	715.66
1989-90	808.81
1990-91	938.11

Gauge conversion projects

1905. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA-Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gauge conversion projects under implementation and since when;

(b) whether any target date for their completion has been fixed;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in their. completion and the . costes-calation due to delay;

(d) whether Government have decided to carry out gauge conversion projects on a war-footing and complete them by the 31st March, 1993; and

(e) if so, the details thereof especially the mechanism developed to ensure the completion by the target
date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN)^ (a) (i) There are 31 guage conversion projects in progress as on date. Of these, 19 have been taken up as new works in 92-93 Budget;

(ii) The remaining 12 have been under implementation since year shown below:

No. of projects	Year of inclusion in Budget
1.	1973-74
3.	74-75
1.	78-79
1.	79-80
1.	84-85
1.	89-90
4.	90-91
12.	

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) For the works in item (a) (ii) above, the works has so far been progressed as per availability of resources from year to year. Since no targets could be fixed and the work had to be regulated in view of the limited availability of resources there has been no delay as such, and consequently no cost escalation can be said to be on account of such delays.

(d) and (e) 15 sections totalling 1,222 kms are targetted for comple tion in 92-93 and on 12 sections to talling 835 kms work is in full swing and efforts WiU be made for their early completion by intensive moni toring.

Ladies Seats in DTO Buses

1906. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ladies seats reserved in the Delhi Transport Corporation buses are not vacated by males; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure the availability of these seats to ladies specially in the trans-Yamuna area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYT-LER): (a) and (b) There are standing instructions issued by the DTO to the Conductors and Supervisory staff that ladies seats ar$_e$ got vacated by male passengers on demand. Having[1] received complaints of this sort DTC have repeated these instructions for compliance.

1907. *[Transferred to the 14th May,* 1992]

दिल्ली परिवहन निगम के अधीन बसों के परिचालन के लिए आवेदन

1908. **मौलाना अबैदुल्ला खान आजमी :** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली परिवहन निगम की बसों के किरायों में वृद्धि के बाद से प्राइवेट बसों के बहुत से मालिक अपनी बसें दिल्ली परिवहन निगम के अधीन लगाने के इच्छुक हैं, यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(ख) क्या सरकार/दिल्ली परिवहन निगम को इस संबंध में कोई आवेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।